



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOUNTAIN GROVE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRANSPORTING 1.5 KILOS OF METH FROM CALIFORNIA TO MISSOURI

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mountain Grove, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to distribute more than 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine in south-central Missouri.

Leonard L. Martin, 44, of Mountain Grove, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this afternoon to the charge contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 18, 2004, in Springfield.

By pleading guilty, **Martin** admitted that he conspired to distribute more than 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine between June 2003 and June 17, 2004, in Texas County, Mo., and Wright County, Mo. Specifically, **Martin** admitted that he participated in the transportation and redistribution of more than 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine in south-central Missouri. The methamphetamine was transported on repeated trips from California, Graves said.

Under federal statutes, **Martin** may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years in federal prison without parole, up to life in prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$8 million.

Martin is the second co-defendant to plead guilty in this case.

On July 27, 2005, **Rebecca S. Shriver**, 44, of Summersville, Mo., pleaded guilty to distributing one ounce of methamphetamine in exchange for \$1,000 on March 31, 2004, in Texas County.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Shriver** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$1 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly R. Weber Dean. It was investigated by the South Central Drug Task Force; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Missouri State Highway Patrol; the Houston, Mo., Police Department; the Cabool, Mo., Police Department; the Phelps County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Rolla, Mo., Police Department; the Texas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Mountain Grove, Mo., Police Department; the Douglas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Wright County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; and the Howell County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow